

# GRACE

## Construction Products Division

W.R. Grace & Co.  
1720 Madison St., N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

(612) 789-8845

November 14, 1985

Mr. Glenn D. Kiecker, Pollution Control Specialist  
Department of Inspection  
City of Minneapolis  
300 Public Health Center  
Minneapolis, Mn. 55415

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



434024

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to your letter of October 25, 1985 regarding noise levels at our plant at 1720 Madison Street, N. E. At your suggestion we called Northern Sound and Mr. Alfonso E. Perez came out to our location. Enclosed find his letter and recommendations for bringing down the noise levels into specifications with the City of Minneapolis Ordinances.

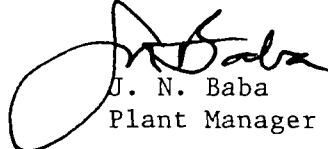
I have also contacted our own Engineering Department in Cambridge, Mass. and have sent all the information to them. As they up date me on their recommendations I will keep you informed. It seems that this has to be taken step by step, eliminating the most offensive units first and work our way down until we can operate within City Codes.

At this time we do not operate this unit after 5 P.M. We hope this will satisfy the complaint for now, but as stated above we are working to bring the entire plant into compliance with City Codes no matter what time of day we have to run.

Sincerely,

CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS DIVISION

W. R. Grace & Co.

  
J. N. Baba  
Plant Manager

JNB:dec



## **northern sound**

St. Anthony National Bank Building  
Suite 201  
2401 Lowry Ave. N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
612-788-9296

November 4, 1985

Mr. Jack N. Baba  
Plant Manager  
W. R. Grace & Co.  
1720 Madison St., N.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Dear Jack:

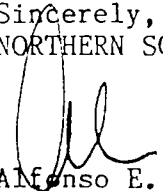
Recapping the findings of my October 31 visit--

1. Noise measurements were made in front of the residential properties west of the plant, and in-line with the monokote mixer baghouse.
2. The noise level measured for the combined operation of the furnaces' and monokote mixer baghouses was 70 dBA.
3. The noise level measured with the monokote mixer baghouse off was 62 dBA.

We agreed to address the problem by quieting the sources in a sequential fashion, starting with the monokote mixer baghouse. Since this baghouse has two main sources of noise -- (1) the two exhaust pipes and (2) the four motors, and their individual contributions to the noise is unknown, we also agreed to treat the exhaust first.

Enclosed are the technical specifications for the silencers we discussed. I am recommending that you purchase two 16" RJ Hush-a-Tubes with welded blank flanges on one side only. Please review the back pressure implications. The total cost for both silencers is \$995 plus shipping from New York. Since the silencers are not a stock item, delivery is normally 6 weeks after the order is received.

Sincerely,  
NORTHERN SOUND

  
Alfonso E. Perez, P.E.